

COMMITMENT



Texas Department of Health
Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program

August, 1998

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Gem Fabric: A Picture of Community Involvement

Dorothy and Reynolds Bixler, owners of Gem Fabrics in Austin, are an outstanding example of community involvement with the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP). The Bixlers were instrumental in creating the BCCCP quilt. Gem Fabric donated the fabric and materials to make the quilt and found Elizabeth Williams, who donated her time to put the quilt together.

BCCCP is not the only program Gem Fabric supports. They also participate in National Comfort Cap Sewathon. This year's event is on September 19th. The Sewathon is sponsored by Husqvarna Viking Sewing Machine Company. The goal is to make 100,000 caps on that day. Last year, Gem Fabric customers and other volunteers in the community, some breast cancer survivors made caps for cancer patients who recently received



BCCCP Community Partner -- (left to right) Reynolds and Dorothy Bixler, owners of Gem Fabric, display one of the comfort caps they made for a cancer patient.

chemotherapy and have lost their hair. They are made out of soft fabric that does not irritate the patient's head. Gem Fabric donated the caps to the American Cancer Society (ACS). ACS then gave the caps to people with cancer.

Gem Fabric also gives customer-made quilts to Children's Hospital. They collect peanut butter and soup for local food pantries and collect diapers to give to a local children's center.

"I work long hours and don't have time to volunteer somewhere else...this gives me the opportunity to give back to the community," said Dorothy Bixler.

"If other mom and pop shops give customers an opportunity (to do something in the community), there will definitely be a response. Everyone gets to contribute and we should all try to do something," said Reynolds Bixler.

You can get more information about the store at their website: <http://www.gemfabric.com>. Do you know of another community business that

Gem Fabric continued page 3

In This Issue...

Gem Fabrics	1
BCCCP Briefs	2
English Language Proficiency	2
Grants Requirements	2
Ask the Expert	3
August QA Meeting	3
BCCCP New Provider	3
Regional Meetings	4
BCCCP in Health Fair at TDH	4
Calendar of Events	4

BCCCP is making a new quilt! If you didn't participate in 1996, call Andrea Littlefield, Information Specialist at (800) 452-1955 to receive materials and instructions.

BCCCP Briefs



Announcements

Sister Mary Jane Strauch, Case Management Project Director for Region 6, will be leaving us to go to St. Louis to complete her doctorate. BCCCP will miss her and wishes her all the best!



Internet Resources

The **Texas Cancer Registry** has a website which shows incidence rates for the state by Public Health Region or by county. Located at: <http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/ter>

BCCCP has added a Frequently Asked Questions page to its website. The page is located at: <http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/bcccp/faqs.htm>



Who to Call & How to Reach Us...

General Information/Administration:

Margaret Méndez Robert Reeves
Nora Ogea Lisa West
Lurah Oliver Rhonnda Jones

Professional Education, Clinical Services, Case Management:

Karen Knox Karen McAnarney
Claudia Himes

Public Information and Outreach:

Stephen Wright Andrea Littlefield

Data Collection and Maintenance:

Vincent Crawley Codie Prinz
Wanda Gibson Steve Johnson
June Browning Constance Holloway

Data Collection Forms

Wanda Gibson

Cancer Epidemiology/Demographics:

Christina Stovall

Billing:

Kathy Kokel Codie Prinz

Texas Department of Health
Breast & Cervical Cancer Control Program
1100 West 49th Street, G407
Austin, TX 78756-3199
(512) 458-7644
(800) 452-1955
(512) 458-7650 FAX
email: [margaret.mendez \(or other staff first name, period and last name\)@tdh.state.tx.us](mailto:margaret.mendez (or other staff first name, period and last name)@tdh.state.tx.us)

Website Address

<http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/bcccp/>

Local Changes

Please call or write Wanda Gibson, Public Health Technician, with **ANY** changes in local phone numbers, personnel or providers. *Thank you.*

New Limited English Proficiency Guidelines Apply to BCCCP Providers

Language or Limited English Proficiency (LEP) is a definite barrier to people accessing public health, hospital and other medical and social services which they are legally entitled. This can limit their ability to understand what services are available to them. With this in mind, the Texas Department of Health (TDH) has recently issued guidance on services for people with LEP. Providers for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) must incorporate this information into their standards and policies.

The language barrier often results in the denial of medical care and

social services. To assist in providing equal services to clients, providers can have bilingual staff, or staff interpreters, use volunteer staff interpreters, and develop a plan to reach the LEP client. A client should not have to use friends or family members as interpreters. Providers should also ensure that it uses people who are competent to provide interpreter services.

Providers should develop policies and procedures for following the LEP guidelines. Additional information will be provided in the Manual of Operations.

TDH Grants Management Requirements

There were several changes to Grants Management requirements this year, here are the several that apply to BCCCP Providers.

- Contracts end August 31, 1998.
- As of September 1, 1998, providers must bill within 30 days of the previous month's services.
- By September 1, 1998, all providers will need to have payments direct deposited (According to Government Code Section 403.016(c)).
- Providers must submit final close out billings no later than 90 days following the end of the contract. For the BCCCP contract, this means that November 30, 1998 will be the last day billings can be submitted. This deadline will be strictly monitored by Grants Management.

If you have any questions regarding these requirements, contact Kathy Kokel, Contract Specialist at (800) 452-1955.

Ask The Expert

Don't forget, **you** can submit your own questions on any subject related to the program such as nursing, case management, billing, data or outreach. Send questions to Andrea Littlefield, Information Specialist, 1100 West 49th Street, Austin, TX 78756-3199.

Q Can providers send error corrections with your monthly data submission?

A Yes. Make sure the error corrections are separated and clearly marked. On your Batch Control Report only reflect the number of new data forms being submitted. (This will not include the number of error corrections being returned.) Also, you may put the error corrections to the attention of your monitoring team data person: Codie Prinz, Connie Holloway or June Browning.

August Quality Assurance Meeting Open to Providers

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) will conduct its first quarterly Quality Assurance (QA) meeting in which providers are invited.

Participating in the first QA meeting are: YWCA of Abilene, Community Action of Hays and University of Texas School of Nursing. The agenda and minutes will be shared with other providers after the meeting.

If any providers would like to submit any QA items to be included on the agenda, you can submit those to Wanda Gibson, Public Health Technician at (800) 452-1955 or by email at wanda.gibson@tdh.state.tx.us. Items will be included in the first available QA meeting slot. If the items are general inquiries and/or topics of interest that can benefit the program as a whole, responses will be published in the following *Commitment*. Otherwise, topics will be researched outside of the QA meetings and a response will be directed to the individual provider.

BCCCP Welcomes New Provider



Medina Community Hospital joins BCCCP -- Staff at Medina Community Hospital in Hondo were oriented to the BCCCP on June 15, 1998. MCH will serve women in Bandera, Uvalde, Medina, Frio and Atascosa counties. Pictured (left to right) are: Lou Yrizzary, Director of Radiology; Jerry Dominguez, Controller; Deserie Burrell, Team Leader; Ronda Lantz, Nurse Practitioner; Julie Juarez, Billing Specialist; Stephanie Martinez, Volunteer; Tinka Langfeld, Case Manager; Delma Arcos, Eligibility & Outreach Specialist; and Christina Garcia, Program Coordinator.

Gem Fabric continued from 1

supports your program or would you like to discuss ways to develop community partners? Call Andrea Littlefield, Information Specialist at (800) 452-1955 and we will do a feature story on the business for an upcoming issue of *Commitment*.

BCCCP Regional Meetings Set

The following Regional Meetings are scheduled for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) providers.

September 10 - 11	Austin
September 23 - 24	Fort Duncan
October 1 - 2	Harlingen
October 8 - 9	Dallas
To Be Announced	Lufkin

For more information, contact Claudia Himes or Karen McAnarney, Nurse Consultants at (800) 452-1955.

BCCCP Participates in Juneteenth Health Fair at TDH



BCCCP participates in African American Health Fair -- Claudia Himes (*left*) explains how to do Breast Self-Exam to two participants at the Juneteenth Health Fair held at the Texas Department of Health.

Important Dates

August

August 26

Quality Assurance Meeting

August 27

LBJ's Birthday

Skeleton crew at State office

September

September 7

Labor Day

State Office Closed

September 10 - 11

Regional Meeting - Austin

September 23 - 24

Regional Meeting - Lufkin

October

October 1 - 2

Regional Meeting - Harlingen

October 2

Breast Cancer Awareness Day

(Wreath Project and Tell-A-Friend

Friday Kickoff)

October 8 - 9

Regional Meeting - Dallas

Women Served*:

102,149

Breast Screenings:

120,154

Cervical Screenings:

90,966

Breast Cancers:

599

Cervical Carcinoma in situ:

1,374

Invasive Cervical Cancer:

47

*As of July 8, 1998

Commitment

A monthly bulletin

Send news/information to:

**Texas Department of Health
Breast & Cervical Cancer Control Program**

1100 West 49th Street

Austin, TX 78756-3199

Telephone: (800) 452-1955

Fax: (512) 458-7650

Email: andrea.littlefield@tdh.state.tx.us